GRANT COUNTY



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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Environmental Cleanup Office

April 21, 2003

Dave Croxton
US Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
1200 6th Avenue (ECL-115)
Seattle WA 98101

RE: Lake Roosevelt

Dear Mr. Croxton:

We recently learned that Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Tech Cominco representatives met in December to discuss an alternate proposal for cleaning up Lake Roosevelt. As we understand, the Tech Cominco alternative addressed citizen's valid health concerns while avoiding an official declaration as a superfund site.

As County Commissioners, it's very important that we are a partner in this issue along with all affected counties, the Spokane and Colville Tribes. With Northeast Washington relying so heavily on a relatively short tourist season (of which Lake Roosevelt is a major draw), we are extremely concerned about the impact a designation of this sort would have on our already struggling economy.

Recent public statements by Monica Tonel indicated that a superfund listing is already justified; however, we believe more work needs to be done. We would encourage further research into the economic impacts upon various communities and also investigate possible international voluntary mitigation efforts before settling into a superfund listing.

We look forward to working with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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cc: Ms. Monica Tonel

Deborah Moore, Chair

Spokane Tribe of Indians Colville Confederated Tribes Ferry County Commissioners Lincoln County Commissioners Andy Dunau, Lake Roosevelt Forum

> DEBORAH MOORE DISTRICT 3

LEROY ALLISON

TIM SNEAD DISTRICT 1